



**PLANNING COMMISSION WORKSESSION
MINUTES
MAY 26, 2010
5:00 PM
CITY OF FREDERICKSBURG
715 PRINCESS ANNE STREET
CONFERENCE ROOM 218**

COMMISSION MEMBERS

**Roy McAfee, Chairman
Edward Whelan
Roy Gratz
Vincent Ramoneda
Susan Spears
Berkley Mitchell**

CITY STAFF

**Raymond P. Ocel, Jr.
Director of P&CD
Eddie Allen, Fire Chief**

CALL TO ORDER

The Planning Director introduced Chief Allen and noted that purpose of the meeting was to consider amending the Comprehensive Plan to address a new location of Fire Station #1. If the new court facility is constructed in the 600 block of Princess Anne Street, Fire Station #1 will have to be relocated and any public facility must be shown in the Comprehensive Plan prior to its re-location.

Chief Allen discussed the property search his department conducted and the criteria used for the search. He also noted that the new building needs to be approximately 20,000 square feet and will include a second floor for fire administration. They conducted a response time study from the preferred property on Charles Street and found that this property met the Fire Department's criteria for response times.

Commission members discussed the relocation of the fire station and any possible impact upon the downtown. Chief Allen noted that there are no businesses in downtown that are located downtown due to the presence of the fire department. In response to a question about the need to be located near the downtown and its use of old and dry timber in the

construction of many of the buildings, Chief Allen noted that in addition to the department's fire apparatus, the department's fire prevention program that includes inspections, enforcement and meeting fire code regulations is sufficient to protect the downtown area.

Commission members inquired about co-locating fire station #1 on the same parcel as the Police Dept. Chief Allen noted that the Police Dept. property was not large enough to co-locate there.

Regarding the proposed location off of Charles Street, Chief Allen noted that a few on-street parking spaces may need to be eliminated on Progress and Germania Streets to accommodate new access points and to meet minimum sight distances. He also noted that the traffic signal at the intersection of Princess Anne and Germania Streets would be upgraded to an actuated signal in order for an approaching emergency vehicle to be able to remotely turn the signal to red on all four approaches.

Chief Allen also noted that the selected location allows good and quick access to the areas of the City that Fire Station #1 covers and that they have outgrown their existing space. A conversation ensued regarding the appropriate size of a new building and how far into the future it would suffice for the department's needs.

Being no further discussion, the meeting was adjourned at 6:00 PM.



Roy McAfee, Chairman